NUMB. CCCLXXXVI.

The SPECTATOR.

Cum Triſtibus ſevere, cum Remiſſis jucunde, cum Senibus graviter, cum Juventute comiter Vivere. Tull.

Friday, May 23. 1712.

THE Piece of Latin on the Head of this Paper is Part of a Character extremely vitious, but I have ſet down no more than may fall in with the Rules of Juſtice and Honour. *Cicero* ſpoke it of *Catiline*, who, he ſaid, lived with the Sad ſeverely, with the Fearful agreeably, with the Old gravely, with the Young pleaſantly; he added, with the Wicked boldly, with the Wanton laſciviouſly. The two laſt Inſtances of his Complaiſance I forbear to conſider, having it in my Thoughts at preſent only to ſpeak of obſequious Behaviour as it fits upon a Companion in Pleaſure, not a Man of Deſign and Intreague. To vary with every Humour in this Manner cannot be agreeable, except it comes from a Man's own Temper and natural Complection; to do it out of an Ambition to excel that Way, is the moſt fruitleſs and unbecoming Proſtitution imaginable. To put on an artful Part to obtain no End but an unjuſt Praiſe from the Undiſcerning, is of all Endeavours the moſt deſpicable. A Man muſt be ſincerely pleaſed to become Pleaſure, or not to interrupt that of others: For this Reaſon it is a moſt calamitous Circumſtance, that many People who want to be alone, or ſhould be ſo, will come into Converſation. It is certain, that all Men who are the leaſt given to Reflection, are ſeized with an Inclination that Way; when, perhaps, they had rather be inclined to Company; but indeed they had better go home, and be tired with themſelves, than force themſelves upon others to recover their good Humour. In all this the Caſes of communicating to a Friend a ſad Thought or Difficulty, in order to relieve an heavy Heart, ſtands excepted; but what is here meant, is, that a Man ſhould always go with Inclination to the Turn of the Company he is going into, or not pretend to be of the Party. It is certainly a very happy Temper to be able to live with all Kinds of Diſpoſitions, becauſe it argues a Mind that lies open to receive what is pleaſing to others, and not obſtinately bent on any Particularity of its own.

This is it that makes me pleaſed with the Character of my good Acquaintance *Acaſto*. You meet him at the Tables and Converſations of the Wiſe, the Impertinent, the Grave, the Frolick, and the Witty; and yet his own Character has nothing in it that can make him particularly agreeable to any one Sect of Men; but *Acaſto* has natural good Senſe, good Nature, and Diſcretion, ſo that every Man enjoys himſelf in his Company; and tho' *Acaſto* contributes nothing to the Entertainment, he never was at a Place where he was not welcome a ſecond Time. Without theſe ſubordinate good Qualities of *Acaſto*, a Man of Wit and Learning would be painful to the Generality of Mankind inſtead of being pleaſing. Witty Men are apt to imagine they are agreeable as ſuch, and by that Means grow the worſt Companions imaginable; they deride the Abſent or rally the Preſent in a wrong Manner, not knowing that if you pinch or tickle a Man till he is uneaſy in his Seat, or ungracefully diſtinguiſhed from the reſt of the Company, you equally hurt him.

I was going to ſay, the true Art of being agreeable in Company, (but there can be no ſuch thing as Art in it,) is to appear well pleaſed with thoſe you are engaged with, and rather to ſeem well entertained, than to bring Entertainment to others. A Man thus diſpoſed is not indeed what we ordinarily call a good Companion, but eſſentially is ſuch, and in all the Parts of his Converſation has ſomething friendly in his Behaviour, which conciliates Men's Minds more than the higheſt Sallies of Wit or Starts of Humour can poſſibly do. The Feebleneſs of Age in a Man of this Turn, has ſomething which ſhould be treated with Reſpect even in a Man no otherwiſe Venerable. The Forwardneſs of Youth, when it proceeds from Alacrity and not Inſolence, has alſo its Allowances. The Companion who is formed for ſuch by Nature, gives to every Character of Life its due Regards, and is ready to account for their Imperfections, and receive their Accompliſhments as if they were his own. It muſt

appear

appear that you receive Law from, and not give it to your Company, to make you agreeable.

I remember *Tully* speaking, I think of *Antony*, says, That *in eo facetiæ erant quæ nulla arte tradi possunt. He had a witty Mirth which could be acquired by no Art.* This Quality must be of the Kind of which I am now speaking; for all Sorts of Behaviour which depend upon Observation and Knowledge of Life is to be acquired; but that which no one can describe, and is apparently the Act of Nature, must be every where prevalent, because every thing it meets is a fit Occasion to exert it; for he who follows Nature, can never be improper or unseasonable.

How unaccountable then must their Behaviour be, who, without any Manner of Consideration of what the Company they have just now entered are upon, give themselves the Air of a Messenger, and make as distinct Relations of the Occurrences they last met with, as if they had been dispatched from those they talk to, to be punctually exact in a Report of those Circumstances? It is unpardonable to those who are met to enjoy one another, that a fresh Man shall pop in, and give us only the last Part of his own Life, and put a Stop to ours during the History. If such a Man comes from *Change*, whether you will or not, you must hear how the Stocks go; and tho' you are never so intently employed on a graver Subject, a young Fellow of the other End of the Town will take his Place, and tell you, Mrs. such a one is charmingly handsome, because he just now saw her. But I think I need not dwell on this Subject, since I have acknowledged there can be no Rules made for excelling this Way; and Precepts of this Kind fare like Rules for writing Poetry, which, 'tis said, may have prevented ill Poets, but never made good ones.

By Her Majesty's Company of Comedians.

AT the Theatre Royal in Drury-Lane, this present Friday, being the 23d of May, will be presented, A Comedy call'd, The Fair Quaker of Deal, or, The Humours of the Navy. The Part of the Fair Quaker by Mrs. Santlow, Commodore Flip Mr. Leigh, Beau-Mizen Mr. Pack, Coxen Whistleboby Mr. Norris, Tom Cagg, Boot-Swain's-Mate, Mr. Johnson, Dick Hammock Mr. Penkethman, Jack Locker Mr. Bullock, Barnaby Whip-staff Mr. Bowen, Will. Swabb Mr. Burkhead, Jeremy Bucket Mr. Bullock, Jun. Asabella Mrs. Bradshaw, Captain Worthy Mr. Booth, Rovewell Mr. Powell. By Her Majesty's Command no Persons are to be admitted behind the Scenes.

For the Benefit of the Author and of the Composer.

AT the Queen's Theatre in the Hay-Market, to Morrow being Saturday, the 24th of May, will be peformed an English Opera, called Calypso and Telemachus. Pit and Boxes to be put together, and no Person to be admitted without Tickets, which will be deliver'd out at White's Chocolate-House, and at the Theatre, at half a Guinea each, this Day and to Morrow. To begin exactly at Six. By Her Majesty's Command no Persons are to be admitted behind the Scenes.

This Opera is Printed for and sold by E. Sanger at the Middle-Temple-Gate in Fleet-street. Price One Shilling.

At the New Tunbridge Wells by the New River Head, in the Dancing Room, is to be seen the famous Posture-Master of Europe, who far exceeds the deceased Posture-Master Clarke and Higgins: He extends his Body into all deformed Shapes, makes his Hip and Shoulder Bones meet together, lays his Head upon the Ground, and turns his Body round twice or thrice, without stirring his Face from the Place; stands upon one Leg, and extends the other in a perpendicular Line half a Yard above his Head, and extends his Body from a Table, with his Head a Foot below his Heels, having nothing to ballance his Body but his Feet: With several other Postures too tedious to mention. Likewise a Child about 9 Years of Age, that shews such Postures as never was seen performed by one of his Age. Perform'd from 6 till 10 every Morning, and from 4 till 8 every Evening, except Mondays and Thursdays, when it will be performed only in the Morning. Note, Tuesday next will be the first Day of performing at this Place.

At Whitton in Middlesex is to be Lett (with Land or without, and with furniture or without) a very good fashionable House of 8 Rooms on a Floor, with Sash-Windows and Closets, and very good Offices, Lantry, Brew-house and Dove-house, Coach-house and Stables, and very handsome Gardens wall'd round and planted with the best Fruit, adorn'd with Statues, fine Greens, and a Wilder-ness, and Kitchen Gardens, all lying compact. It is between Isle-worth and Twickenham, about 10 Miles from London, 3 from Brantford, 3 from Kingston, 2 from Richmond, and between 2 and 3 from Hampton-Court. Enquire of Mr. Thomas Jackson Surgeon at Twickenham, or at Tom's Coffee-house in Devereaux-Court near the Temple, London

If such Person as would Lett a House in the Country, no further than about 7 Miles from London in a good Road, and good Air, 4 Rooms on a Floor with proper Conveniencies, and some Acres of Land for Grasing to it, will leave a Discription of it at Ned's Coffee-house near the Bank for Mr. Norris, if liked, he will hear of a Customer.

Wm Tazwell undertakes to accomplish Gentlemen, or other Persons of either Sex above the Age of 14 Years, in the compleat knowledge of the Latin Tongue, and make them capable of rendring Latin into English, and English into Latin, (by their Attendance only an Hour at a time 3 Days in a Week) in 3 Months time from his first beginning to teach them, tho' they never knew the Language before: And that by an easie practical Method, entirely new, founded upon undeniable Reason and Experience, and wholly free from the tedious Forms of Schools, as not to require much Study or Pains, or be in the least burthensome to the Memory, but pleasant as well as profitable, and does not tire the Person's Patience in Learning, or break the Thoughts from, or hinder any Business He is to be agreed with next the Blue Anchor and Crown in Princes Street, near Stocks-Market, the lower end of the Street, between the Hours of 2 and 6 in the Afternoon, his Business requiring Attendance Abroad in a Forenoon

KING HENRY VIII's PRIMER, set forth by His Majesty and his Clergy to be taught, learned, and read, and to other to be used throughout all his Dominions. Imprinted at London by Richard Grafton, Printer to the Prince's Grace, the XVIIth Day of August, MDXLVI. Reprinted without any Alteration, and sold by E. Sparkes, Bookbinder, against the Dial in Fetter-Lane near Fleet-street. Price 2 s.

The true Royal Snuff for Purging the Head. It takes away Pains and Aches from thence; cures Deafness, and a very excellent against the Megrim, Palsie, Apoplexy, the Evil in the Eyes, or any Humour in them: Also the Gout in the Head, Catarrh or Drippings from the Head upon the Lungs, and will bring away Mercury that lodgeth in the Head by taking Bolusses or Pills, occasion'd by any infectious Trades, as Refiners, Gilders, Plummers or the like; and very much helps Dimness of Sight. Sold at Mr. Cox, Bookseller in the Piazza's at the Royal-Exchange, Mr. Edm. Calverley's, Stationer, at the Lyon and Lamb, near the King's Head Inn in the Borough of Southwark, Mr. Osborne's Toy-Shop, at the Rose and Crown under St. Dunstan's Church in Fleet street, Mr. Adams's Toy-Shop, in Spring Garden Passage, going into St. James's Park; and no where else in London. Price Nine Pence a Paper. Directions how to take the Royal Snuff, and also the Dwelling Places of several that have received Benefit by it, are inserted in the Paper given with the Royal Snuff.

The Chrystal Cosmetick approv'd of by the worthy Dr. Paul Chamberline, viz. By washing Morning and Evening, cures all red Faces proceeding from what Cause soever, takes off all Morphews, Pimples and Freckles, it's of a fine Nature, cleansing and adorning the Face and Hands of both Sexes in a very beautiful Manner, and may be used with as much safety as Milk, having in it no Mercury (so frequently made use of) or any other thing that may be prejudicial to the Body, being the best of this Nature now extant. Price of the larger Bottle 6 s. the less 3 s. Note, To prevent Counterfeits, each single Bottle, with Directions, is Tied and Sealed with this Coat of Arms prefix'd, being a Frett with a Lion Rampant on a Canton. Sold at the Blue-Coat-Boy near the Royal-Exchange, Cornhill, at Mr. John Jackson's the Corner of Wood-street, Cheapside, at the Seven-Stars under St. Dunstan's Church, Fleet-street, at Mrs. Bracknocks the upper End of St James's street, Piccadilly.

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